



RECEIVED

OCT 17 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

HEROUX et al.

Appln. No. 09/023,483

Filed: February 13, 1998

Atty. Ref.: 2528-2

Group Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: J. Tung

FOR: ASSAY METHODS FOR NUCLEIC ACID IN A SAMPLE

23/E
RF/1
E Williams
10-18-02

* * *

AFTER-FINAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

October 11, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Box AF

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the pending Office Action (Paper No. 22) mailed July 30, 2002, entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims as follows.

15. (3x Amended) A method as in claim 14, wherein said at least one detectable species is selected from the group consisting of biotin, nucleic acid sequence, nucleic acid base pairing linear polymer, fluorescent molecule, electrochemiluminescent molecule, radioactive molecule, peroxidase and alkaline phosphatase.

Kindly enter the following new claims.

41. (New) A method for determining the amount of total nucleic acid contamination in a sample, said method comprising:

10/16/2002 CNGUYEN 00000076 09023483

01 FC:2201
02 FC:2202

210.00 OP
189.00 OP

673519